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*Major General*  
*The Adjutant General*

**TAG POLICY LETTER 05-4**

**24 March 2005**

**THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S SAFETY PHILOSOPHY**

1. The nature of our profession is a hazardous one. We make our environment dangerous by our actions or our failure to act. Safety must be an aspect in everything we do both on and off duty. I will not ask you to make safety your number one priority. I will ask you to make safety one of your core values. Priorities change all too frequently with the high optempo and the diversity of missions assigned, but our core values do not change!
2. Risk Management is one of the most important tools we have; it has broad applications both in our military and civilian life. Dangers are everywhere. If we discipline ourselves to identify hazards, assess hazards, and establish control measures, we can minimize our exposure to those risks. Through the risk management process we as leaders, both officer and non commissioned officers, constantly look for ways to minimize risk; accept and carefully manage only the residual risk that cannot be completely eliminated.
3. Commitment to Safety starts with individual commitment and discipline. Injuries and damage to equipment occur for many reasons. Complacency, excessive motivation, overconfidence, and disregard for established procedures are the greatest causes according to accident and collateral investigations. Concern for the well being of our soldiers will be exercised on every mission.
4. Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) accidents have been the number one killer of Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard personnel for far too long. Leader emphasis on POV and Army Motor Vehicle (AMV) safety must be unrelenting. All leaders, Senior Officers to Non Commissioned Officers must assert positive influence on how, when, and where AMVs and POVs are operated.
5. Safe operations occur through prevention, not through investigation. Remain vigilant and take care of yourself, your family, and your fellow soldiers. I want you to know my concern for your safety and sincere determination to spare no effort in making your job a safe one.

(J3 Air/Safety)

GLENN K. RIETH  
Major General, NJARNG  
The Adjutant General

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